British Columbia

AGRICULTURAL AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1983-84

BC

Ministry of
Agriculture
and Food

British Columbia

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

AGRICULTURAL AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

AND

WORLD DISASTER AREAS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Member and Secretary

British Columbia Agricultural Aid to Developing Countries and World Disaster Areas

TO: The Honourable Harvey W. Schroeder
Minister of Agriculture and Food

Sir:

I have the honour to present the report on the Government of British Columbia's Agricultural Aid to Developing Countries Program for the fiscal year 1983/84.

It can be seen from the table on the next page that assistance was provided to 20 organizations sponsoring 41 development projects or disaster operations during the year. The total amount now committed by the Government of British Columbia in the life of the program since 1969 is $7,521,582 in support of 752 projects. Short summaries of the projects supported in 1983 and a map of their locations are given in the body of the report.

The report also shows that, despite the economic difficulties of the times and necessity for practising restraint in all areas, the Government has continued to provide financial support for British Columbia-based non-government organizations. The standard of project continues to be high and, during the year under review, many of those initiated in earlier years have been successfully concluded.

The guidelines for the Advisory Committee are included in the report for readers unfamiliar with the program. Administration is kept as simple as possible. The first step for any interested applicant is to provide satisfactory proof of eligibility. After that, an application may be made by the sponsoring organization on the form provided by the Secretary. At the next meeting of the Advisory Committee, the project proposal is reviewed on its merits, in relation to the guidelines and the amount of the budget still uncommitted. If the project receives favourable review, a recommendation is made to the Minister on the amount that should be granted in its support. Enclosed with the cheque is a project progress report form and a date given for the return of the form. When all Government funds have been spent on the project and upon its completion, the file on the project is formally closed.

...continued

While the budget for the program in the current year has been approved at a reduced level, it is anticipated that the overall effectiveness of the program will remain high.

G. A. MacEachern
Chairman, B. C. Agricultural
Aid Advisory Committee

TOTAL AMOUNT GRANTED TO EACH ORGANIZATION
DURING PERIOD APRIL 1, 1983 TO MARCH 31, 1984,
AND THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED

Organization	Projects	Amount
Canadian Lutheran World Relief	2	30,000
Canadian Organization for Development Through Education	1	3,600
Canadian Red Cross Society	8	35,000
Canadian University Service Overseas	2	10,750
CARE Canada	1	10,000
Frontiers Foundation	1	10,000
Inter-Action	1	5,000
Inter Pares	1	6,590
Mennonite Central Committee	1	13,095
Operation Eyesight Universal	2	15,000
OXFAM Canada	3	9,950
Primate's World Relief and Development Fund	1	10,000
Salvation Army	2	10,000
Save the Children Fund	2	15,000
UNICEF B.C.	1	10,000
Unitarian Services Committee of Canada	4	25,000
World Concern	1	8,000
World Literacy of Canada	1	1,500
World University Service of Canada	1	10,795
World Vision Canada	5	17,051
	41	$256,331

BRIEF SUMMARIES OF APPROVED PROJECTS

April 1, 1983 to March 31, 1984

CANADIAN LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Rangpur-Dinajpur Rehabilitation Service, Bangladesh..... $15,000

The program was established in 1971 and has been supported by British Columbia for several years. The objectives include agricultural development for as many as 10,000 farmers in the northern districts of Rangpur and Dinajpur. The focus is on the small land holder with less than one ha, who receives guidance and assistance to buy seeds and fertilizers.

West Bengal Rehabilitation and Development Program, India..... $15,000

This program is now in its tenth year of assistance to the street dwellers of Calcutta. Many of them are given an opportunity to relocate to more rural parts, where they are given basic training in crop production.

CANADIAN ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

Breed Buffaloes for Milk, Meat and Work, India..... $ 3,600

A booklet will be published which will cover all aspects of buffalo care and maintenance. It will be useful to the thousands of farmers who breed buffaloes and use them for work, milk or meat. The booklet will emphasize proper care for the animals, while using them to their full potential.

CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

Disaster Operations. All grants were made for purchase of relief supplies and to help cover operational expenses.

Floods, Argentina..... $ 4,000

In 1983, several large rivers were at levels higher than they had ever been this century. Flooding extended over 1300 km of the Argentine coast causing more than 100,000 people to evacuate their homes, and in need of food, soap, medicine, tenets and boats. Most items can be purchased locally.

Drought, Bangladesh..... $ 6,000

Inadequate rainfall for the second year running resulted in an inadequate rice harvest in many parts of the country. Thousands of families were affected, the number of mothers and children being estimated at 200,000. The Bangladesh Red Cross committed all its reserves to obtain milk, rice, children's clothing and medicaments.

Floods, Bolivia..... $ 4,000

In February and March, 1983, heavy rains caused the River Piray to flood 54,000 ha, resulting in loss of sugar cane, rice, corn, bananas, manioc and other crops. About 47,000 people were affected through loss of home and chattels, or dislocation. The Red Cross organized a feeding program and distribution of cooking utensils, blankets and bricks for reconstruction purposes.

Floods, Ecuador..... $ 4,000

A series of natural disasters continued to make life precarious for families living in coastal areas of Ecuador. Rivers overflowed, strong winds and tides destroyed homes near the sea, bridges became unsafe, and farmers lost their crops during their efforts to replace to replace the previous one. The Red Cross extended its food distribution program to aid 5,000 people. Donations were used to buy food, warehouse space and transportation.

Drought, Ethiopia..... $ 5,000

The drought situation in northern Ethiopia became worse in 1983. It is estimated that 1.3 million people in two Provinces were affected. Many statistics are available; one that is sadly depressing is that, in the town of Korem, 35% of children under 5 are under 80% weight for their height. The Ethiopian Red Cross supplied essential food and blankets for the displaced people.

Hurricane, Fiji..... $ 2,000

In March, 1983, Hurricane Oscar struck some outlying islands of Fiji. About 5,000 people were made homeless and in need of shelter, food and blankets.

Drought, India..... $ 6,000

For the fourth successive year, the country's food production target was disrupted by poor weather. Inadequate monsoon rains in 1982 adversely affected an estimated 120 million people in eleven States. The Indian Red Cross has provided water from automobile tankers, tubewells and masonry wells. In addition, food and utensils were obtained for distribution to the children.

Floods, Peru..... $ 4,000

In the northern part of Peru, 370,000 people were affected by flooding after torrential rain. Bridges were destroyed causing villages to be isolated. Transportation and communication equipment were needed, in addition to essential foodstuffs.

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY SERVICE OVERSEAS

Grain Marketing and Storage, Botswana..... $ 6,750

The objective of the project is to build grain storage facilities at convenient collection centres, where grain can be bagged and from where it can be transported to Gaberone. Producers will be paid the recognized Botswana marketing board price at the collection centres.

Village Fisheries, Vanuatu..... $ 4,000

Under the supervision of a village fisheries advisor, practical instruction in deep-bottom fishing and trolling will be given to 60 people with little experience. Once training has been completed, the fishermen will be given charge of the business. The additional protein will benefit many people on the Islands of Epi and Malekula.

CARE CANADA

Rural Women's Integrated Development, Kenya..... $10,000

In Kenya, there are many women's organizations whose members make their livelihood from smallholdings. Assistance is being provided to these groups, which are properly registered with the government. This particular project, that includes goat breeding, chicken operations and vegetable production, will increase the incomes of about 5,000 people.

FRONTIERS FOUNDATION

Kenema Village Agricultural Cooperative, Sierra Leone..... $10,000

This project, which has received support from British Columbia in the past, has resulted in the clearing and planting of about 30 ha of land. The next part of the project is to enlarge the area under cultivation to about 200 ha, to benefit 1,500 people in 10 villages. The project area is fairly close to Njala University, which provides extension workers, and is closely supervised by an African who has had the experience of working with Frontiers Foundation on a project in Canada.

INTER-ACTION

World Food Day, 1983..... $ 5,000

The annual World Food Day program was started as an educational plan by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. All member nations take part with Canada as a lead country. British Columbia has consistently provided a most imaginative and comprehensive program involving hundreds of school groups, the Universities and others. In 1983, over 500 school coordinators signed up for the October 16 day of recognition. A schools package was developed to send to each one, and seminars were arranged for teachers and other volunteers in many parts of the Province.

Locations of the Projects Supported by the
Government of British Columbia during 1983-84

INTER PARES

Extension Program for New Farmers, India..... $ 6,590

This particular grant funded salaries for 11 extension workers who will work with 575 families to settle 1,000 ha in Bihar and Maharashtra States. The program provides organized extension advice for families that agree to work together to bring marginal land under production. The emerging community farm is then assisted in the development of its most suitable pattern of operation.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Agricultural Development Project, Botswana..... $13,095

The objective of the project is to train local people in order to promote self-sufficiency in food production in five communities. The direct beneficiaries are farmers and small vegetable growers who, through the adoption of better management systems, will have larger incomes and improved nutrition for their families.

OPERATION EYESIGHT UNIVERSAL

Hirekerur Rural Opthalmic Clinic, India..... $ 7,500

The objective was to build a small rural opthalmic health care centre in this agricultural town. At the centre, it is estimated that the sight of 450 people will be restored and a further 4,000 blindnesses will be prevented each year. The people of the area are very poor and depend on the land to earn a livelihood.

Rural Eye Camps, India..... $ 7,500

This is an ongoing program of visiting villages for one day at a time, setting up a clinic and either treating those on the spot or making arrangements for an operation to be performed at a hospital in the State. From a history of success, it can be safely estimated that 15,000 rural workers and children benefited from the 1983 program.

OXFAM CANADA

Agricultural Reconstruction in Catacaos, Peru..... $ 3,450

This reconstruction project, necessitated by flooding from the Lower Piura River, aims at putting back into production some 250 ha of land, and repairing the access roads and bridges leading into it. Some 2,000 small farmers in the community of Catacaos will benefit from the project. A revolving loan fund, administered by the community, will also be established.

Massangano Fishing/Agricultural Project, Angola..... $ 5,000

The objective was to provide boats, motors and fishing tackle for 100 or so members of the village commune. The project has support of the government, which is promoting the growth of similar organizations in rural areas. Increased production from the project should provide an incentive for other communities to copy.

Safe Use of Pesticides, Costa Rica..... $ 1,500

The objective is to increase awareness of the dangers of pesticides for 600 banana and coffee workers in Costa Rica, and through introduction of practical precautions, decrease the incidence of toxic poisoning.

PRIMATE'S WORLD RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

Rio Grande Agricultural Development, Nicaragua..... $10,000

The objectives are to develop the natural and human resources of five villages in order to improve the quality of life for their inhabitants. They will be accomplished through comprehensive plans for growing food, dairy and chicken farming, and food preservation, which will be implemented cooperatively within each village.

SALVATION ARMY

Rabbit Breeding Training Centre, Ghana..... $ 5,000

Three hundred families will be taught the basic principles of rabbit breeding for food and profit. This is a project in which all members of a family can become involved.

Tree Planting and Farm Development, Papua New Guinea..... $ 5,000

There are 125 boys at the Sageri Rehabilitation Centre who will be taught farming skills and be better equipped to find jobs when they come of age.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

Mahalapye Extension, Botswana..... $ 7,500

This is an extension program aimed primarily to help women and non-cattle owners. A Botswana extension worker has been hired to give workshops in horticulture and basket-making, carpentry and tanning. A cooperative marketing association will be organized.

Poultry Production, Mozambique..... $ 7,500

The aim is to raise the incomes of agricultural cooperatives based in communal villages in the Limpopo Valley, as well as to improve the local diet, by producing poultry meat and eggs. There are 43 cooperatives with a membership of 4,000.

UNICEF B.C.

Rural Water Supply, St. Lucia..... $10,000

The direct beneficiaries of this project to improve the existing water systems will be the 4,500 people in four communities, most of whom are subsistence farmers. The communities will donate the labour for installation of the systems, and for their repairs and maintenance.

UNITARIAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF CANADA

$10,000

Ha Sets'abi Agricultural Development, Lesotho.....

About 450 people are directly involved and another 600 will stand to benefit from the success of this village-created project to increase crop production and enlarge the water supply.

$ 5,000

Small Scale Fisheries Production, Lesotho.....

The objective is to develop a low cost, low technology fisheries scheme to provide food and employment, and generate income at the village level. In the first year 50 existing ponds will be repaired and stocked, and in the next year another 50 will be constructed.

$ 5,000

Mapobeni Cooperative Irrigation, Swaziland.....

About 200 people will benefit indirectly from the proposed irrigation of 40 ha of land for maize cultivation under a cooperative scheme. The project involves construction of a pump station on the Usutu River and a reservoir on the ridge above the site.

$ 5,000

Round Table Rural Water Supply, Swaziland.....

The severe drought which has affected most of Swaziland during the last four years has resulted in the drying of many wells and small streams, which normally supply the rural communities. The aim of the project is to develop five community water systems, on a self-help basis, for 1,000 villagers.

WORLD CONCERN

$ 8,000

Karnali Technical School, Nepal.....

The aim is to build a technical school in a remote part of Nepal, where 60 young people will be trained in basic skills of agriculture, construction, nursing and primary education. It is expected that the school will provide a base for future rural development programs.

WORLD LITERACY OF CANADA

Mowoto Literacy and Village Development, Sierra Leone..... $ 1,500

This is a two-year project that will see residents of Mowoto Village become literate in Mende, the local language. The village committee intends to organize a demonstration farm and a rabbitry to generate funds for future community projects. The village population is 400, most of whom work on the land.

WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE OF CANADA

Mashai Village Water Supply, Lesotho..... $10,795

Two villages with 600 people in each will benefit from installation of a gravity-feed water system. The nearest water supply at present is 2.7 km distant.

WORLD VISION CANADA

Dogon Community Development, Mali..... $ 4,192

The grant covered the last year of a four-year program in which eight wells were dug benefiting 10,000 people. Two more wells have been dug, the labour for which was given freely by the local inhabitants. A reliable supply of water will make agriculture viable once more in this drought-prone part of the Sahel.

Mana Community Development, Mali..... $ 1,960

This is the third year of a project to bring water to 10 villages, thereby increasing their food production capability. In 1983, seedlings and fertilizer were provided, and new land brought into production.

Warsala Community Development, Mali..... $ 3,220

This is another three-year project reaching its conclusion. About 4,000 people in 10 villages in an isolated part of the country have been able to increase their harvest. A number of agriculture projects were organized, including construction of four wells, preparing land for the planting season, and planting millet, sorghum and groundnuts.

Mityana Farmer Training, Uganda..... $ 6,203

This is the first year of a two-year program to train 60 farmers in agriculture and poultry. Basic implements were provided to students.

Young Farmers, Uganda..... $ 1,476

This project is designed to train 200 young farmers a year for four years in animal husbandry and modern agriculture methods. A loan is provided in the form of seeds or livestock, which are repaid after the harvest, and the profits are circulated to other farmers.

GUIDELINES

FOR THE BRITISH COLUMBIA AGRICULTURAL AID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. WHO MAY APPLY FOR A B.C. AGRICULTURAL AID GRANT?

To be eligible to receive a grant, an organization must normally be:

a) Non-governmental and non-profit.

b) Clearly identifiable as Canadian, preferably with headquarters or offices in British Columbia.

c) In the case of religious organizations, a provincial or parent body.

d) Managed efficiently and provide evidence of competence to carry out the project or disaster relief.

e) Prepared to provide the B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee with documentary evidence of its ability to meet its share of the financial and other obligations related to the project or disaster relief.

2. INFORMATION REQUIRED

An organization, when applying for a grant for the first time, must provide:

a) Full legal name, address and telephone number.

b) Date of founding, incorporation (if applicable) and details of registration.

c) Copy of the charter of incorporation, constitution or similar document.

d) Names of members of the board, executive officer and principal staff.

e) Copy of the most recent audited financial statement and the annual report to the Registrar-General of Charitable Organizations or the Provincial Registrar (if the organization is registered under the Income Tax Act).

f) A copy of the annual report and the most recent informational material issued by the organization.

Each organization should ensure that this material is kept up to date by submitting annual reports and other relevant material to the Chairman of the B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee.

A description of each project should be submitted on a Projects Submission Form, which can be obtained from the Executive Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Legislative Buildings, Victoria, B.C., V8W 2Z7.

3. TYPES OF PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR SUPPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee may recommend a grant be made to the sponsoring organization to provide:

a) Direct support for a project with a significant agricultural component, e.g., well digging, land clearing, farm equipment.

b) Support for agriculturally related education, with emphasis on land and water development as well as technical and scientific agricultural subject matter.

c) Assistance following a disaster. In the case of a serious disaster the B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee is usually aware of the situation and is prepared to recommend cash aid or other assistance immediately following submission by a non-government organization.

d) Discretionary aid in the form of matching grants. In these cases, submissions are accepted from organizations other than those involved basically in world aid, but to qualify for matching grants, funds must be raised by the private sector in British Columbia.

4. APPRAISAL OF PROJECTS

Apart from disaster relief, the B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee carefully considers each project which should:

a) Contribute significantly to social and economic development by creating jobs, developing human resources, etc.
b) Foster self-reliance by encouraging local management and initiative.
c) Make the maximum use of local human and financial resources.
d) Assist the underprivileged.
e) Be on-going, with development continuing after the cessation of funds.

The objectives of the project should be clear and realistically attainable within the limits of the resources and time available. All details should be set out clearly to show the project is financially and economically sound and is well accepted by the country concerned.

Support of a project must not be assumed by an organization until it is informed, in writing, by the Chairman of the B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee, that a grant has been approved.

5. GRANT LIMITATIONS

Grants may not be made to an organization that is in arrears with its reporting, or fails to meet its financial or other obligations, or has performed unsatisfactorily on previously-assisted projects.

B.C. Agricultural Aid grants may be made in one lump sum payment on initiation of the project, or paid in instalments based on the project's requirements and on receipt of satisfactory progress reports.

The B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee will try to avoid excessive concentration on grants to one organization, country or economic sector.

The B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee may consult with agencies submitting several requests to establish priorities.

Grants for advanced training should be confined to the general area in which the applicant resides.

6. TIME SPAN OF SUPPORT

Support is normally for one year at a time. It may be possible, however, for the B.C. Agricultural Aid Advisory Committee to indicate conditional support for longer periods, subject to satisfactory progress reports and approval of funds by the British Columbia Legislative Assembly.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SUBMITTING ORGANIZATION

An organization which receives a grant from the Government of British Columbia is responsible for competent administration of the grant, and providing progress reports and a final report on the project within the deadlines given.